Myingston and Ambrose Spencer and other came the John Marshall of New York. He had been the personal pupil of Alexsader Hamilton, who called his attention to the civil law when he was a very young man. and of Gov. John Jay, who, in 1798, made him a Justice in the New York Supreme Court,



CHANCELLOR JAMES KENT.

of which court he became Chief Justice in 1804. In 1814 be was appointed Chancellor of How York. He remained in that position until 1828, when he was retired, to the disgust of thinking men, because he was 60 years of age. William Wirt, the Attorney-General of Monroe. desired him to be raised to the United States Supreme Court, but that President had taken up with the Tompkins influence and selected Smith Thompson. The slight was of benefit to local science, for the retired Chancel-lor, resuming his professorship of law, which he had held before he went on the bench. delivered his lectures in the form of comprehensive commentaries on American law, and began to publish them as books in 1824. Six editions of the commentaries appeared, and the last one he revised just before he died. Editions came forth after his death to the number of thirteen, requiring such editors as William Kent, Dorman B. Eaton, George P. Comstock, Oliver W. Holmes, Jr., and Charles M. Barnes. Judge Story, who was of the opposite school of politics, described the work as the first judicial classe of the United States. Some have thought that it was superior to Blackstone's Commentaries, because of the mere extensive knowledge of the Roman and tinental law by Chancellor Kent. He died In the city of New York in 1847, just before the consummation of his views as an old Feder-alist. He was then 84 years old. IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGE.

Like many of the learned men who settled the principles of law. art. &c., in this country, Kent was of preacher's stock, the grandson and great-grandson of clergymen. His father married a physician's daughter. Hannah Kent. Plattaburg. Kent lost his mother at 7, and his father died in 1794. He was brought up at Norwalk, by his grandfather, the Rev. Joseph Moss, and was then sent to New York State, to an uncle, who lived at Pawlings, Thence he went back to Daubury, and was kept moving around during the Revolution to Stratford, Newtown, &c., until he reached Yale College. In all the schools he was lively, quick, emulous, and studious, His moral character and his simplicity grew up together, although he was as playful as a kitten; he loved nature, has a rambier and went on foot a'l through low England as far as t anada, looking at the tiscules and gaps. Thus he obtained the

THE AMERICAN BLACKSTONE.

Shore all other districts for the cultivation of the real and the exact sciences, and, therefore, we see in every State of the Union the recks of local New York carry our names, such as Potadam and Laurentias, and the laws of, communication were equally taught from New York where the steamboat and telegraph came to limit. The simple-minded Kent, who never wasted a moment on appearances, but behave the most out of the fulness of his nature, awake one day and found himself Recorder of New York city as well as a Masser in Chancer. He mover did like the practice of law, and as continued to read and collect books. Gov. Jay, who had a touchstone for character, touched him with it when he was 35, and without referring to James Hent, the Blackstone, as he was generally called, of American law. He belongs to the roster of institution makers, of which New York carry out and most of the courts of the Eugens to the Constitution in the line of the old Federalists who made it, so Kent, replacing Chancellor Livingston and Ambrose Spencer and other tributes. The property of the was developed new principles of common law were now made it, so Kent, replacing Chancellor Livingston and Ambrose Spencer and other tributes and there were an precedents. Kent began to limit the English completely and the course most of his income went to bleors, for in these days they did not pay John Adams, and Chancellor Livingston and Ambrose Spencer and other tributes are rights a Judges and Chancellor Livingston and Ambrose Spencer and other tributes are rights and there were an interest the courts of the cour

The state of the s

Commentaries.

Out of his need he rehest gave.

Out of his need he rehest gave.

When fortunes river bed was dry

Frought the best damonds of the slave.

This merry wise man had diffidence to get
no in the courts and hully witnesses, but he
did not take up to the bench susterity enough
to frighten a horse.

CHIEF JUSTICE AND CHANCELLOR.

Rent was raised to be Chief Justice at the age of 39, and for ten years he delivered opinions to be found in sixteen volumes of reportations to be found in sixteen volumes of reportation to be found in sixteen volumes of reportation to be added in the part Alexander Hamilton fell, and continued to preside until the close of the second war with England. When made Chancellor in 1814 he found himself in a naked field for there were no reports of Chancery decisions in New York, and fernine years he clied not a single one of any of his predecessors, seeming to show that lother. It lavingston had not entirely set the world on fire. No circumicoution office was key there. Everybody knew that a true-hearted man, who believed in despatch and was himself poor and incorruptible. Stood ready to administer the law. His chambers became filled with lawyers and clients. No man had precedence over any other man, but everything was taken up in order, nor did he shirk his work but read all the pleadings and depositions and with a superb moral perception lodged the right where he loadstone lay. Several volumes of these Chancery reports survive him, and after all that work the politicians sent him out because he was 50.

When the Constitutional Convention of 1821 CHIEF JUSTICE AND CHANCELLOP.

superb moral perception lodged the right where the loadstone lay. Several volumes of these Chancery reports survive him. And after all that work the politicians sent him out because he was 60.

When the Constitutional Convention of 1821 brought him into its circle he had opposed the extension of the sleotors if ranchise, and barely secaped seeing the Court of Chancery abolished, although he saved it. He made many public addresses, and no comment seems ever to have been made adversely to his carear, except the trite criticism that his opinions were marketable, although not his convictions, for a he had been crowded out of the bench at the height of his reputation, many litigants preferred to bring their causes before him rather than to embark on a coatly sea of litigation without a monitor. The only person I ever heard utter the above criticism on Judge Rent was Benator James W. Nye of Novada, a New York Barnburner. Judge kent had a brother who was a Federalist and member of Congress in Madison's Administration, and lived in Jefferson county. The Chancelor had a son William, who was appointed by Gov. Seward to the bench of the Supreme Court and was professor of the law in Harvard College.

Chancellor Kent's retirement from office was treated with something of the respect and indignation which followed De Witt Clinton's compulsory discharge from a nature in New England. It occurred to him that he would die speedly if he had nothing to do. He was going to onen a haunt in New England. It occurred to him that he would die speedly if he had nothing to other lawyers in town, who went atound saying that he was huckstering legal opinions for hire, as if there should be only one lawyer in the United States who should get no hire, and that the highest one Time and did not travels of his work may not be so fully understood at the present time, when the law is a rush for cash, as when men took more lime and did not travels of her had been took more lime and did not travels of her beat time when the law is a rush for cash, a

cery law, and they seemed to him but as a day.

THE SUFFRAGE QUESTION.

At almost 60 years of age Kent, in the Constitutional Convention at Albany, had called upon the age to hair before lading the suffrage out with worse than free junch liberality. His was one of the last voices raised with boldness on such a proposition, and it east the State Judge Kent, not Kent the btate. He said that if the blacks were in some respects a degraded portion of the confinuality, he was unwilling to see them distranchised and the door strainly burrod against them, he said also. "This state has existed for forty-four years under our present Constitution, which was formed by those illustrious saxes and patriots who adorned the Revolution; it has wonderfull; fulfilled all the groat ends of civil gover ment. We have had a succession of wise and temperate Legislatures. Our statute law may promity bear a comparison with that of any other ment. plear Fall as a kitten; be loved and accept Pasa armshire and seaton for all through Jew England as far as tanada, looking at the lassable and give. Time he obts not the health wh chi give him as ha long life. The composition of the many health of the health wh chi give him as ha long life. The composition of the many health of the health wh chi give him as ha long life. The composition of the many distribution of the

but to read books: showed me his library with a good deal of particalarity, and a collection of tamphiets making slasty-five volumes, which he commenced when he was a young man. He has great simplicity and freedom of manners, otens himself like a child, though this I attributed partly to a harmless vanity; he undoubtedly show that he is a lion and therefore offers himself readily for exhibition. I thought more than once that he was sitting for his picture." These same things were said afterward about Mr. Summer, who was much of a lion hunter. A dozen years alienward Summer wrote in the Law Reporter: "His venerable years are another illustration of the saying of one of the early masters of the law, that there is something in the cultivation of jurisprudence favorable to a protracted life. However much we retze his work, we are disposed to regard many of the the opinions of the suthor pronounced from the bench as evidencing even a higher order of juridical talent." In a letter written to Summer just before his death kept said: "I am strongly in favor of the institution of a congress of nations or system of arbitration without going to war. I was much struck in my youth by the observation of Thomas Palue, that he who is the author of war lets loose the whole contagion to death."

Funce stort's Estimate.

Stort whom the New Englanders set up as

JUDGE STORT'S ESTIMATE,

coil to two. I was might stress in corporate by the observation of Seek and roses a vein that these analous on design of roses a vein that these analous on design of roses a vein that these analous on design of the seek and the seek of the seek o

THURLOW WEED'S STORT.

Thurlow Weed tells a story that a distinguished jurist was one day dining with Kent in Albany, when his son, William, the subsequent Judge, who was only three or four years old, raised a roar, and after trying to appease him, the Chancellor rushed from the table, picked up the boy, and while ascending to a provided his wife." Mrs. Kent how long may we been married." She answered, and he said. "I dealer that you should say, for the information of our friend and guest and in justice to me, whether during our married." It is you have ever known me guilty of deing so gross an act of impropriety as the "Mrs. Kent said it was his first offence. The Chancellor's outaningly was restrict and everythink west on smoothir. Kent alterward said that the said of the

shy, rather good-natured, sincers man, with a squinting forehead, which made him look perrible to small boys in the law. He had a large family and, therefore, he could not save so, much as he had expected, but George III. made a first-rate provision for Blackstone's wife and children. His statue was set up at Oxford and his remains were put in Wallingford church.

This parallel has been made for the benefit of the general reader, who may know very little of either Black-tone or kent. Kent had read some law out the hoof when he wandered through nature and, therefore, he lived to be \$4 years old. He lived too long for the politicians, who rotated him out of office tecause he had reached the judicial limit of age and could not be made to believe that universal suffrage would cure come and bunions. Min the pantheon of New York, one day to be made, among the citizens who est themselves, like Moses and Nouh, before large, comprehensive tasks—histways, canals, geology, finance, was, education, law—the omission of Kent should fire the pantheon.

George Alfred Townsend.

GROEGE ALPRED TOWNSEND.

SIR JOHN'S WONDERFUL PARMS.

Land Nature Intended for Graning.

cient moisture he had a large number of water casts made in Montreal. He proposed to sprinkle his fil-files on the principle of the street water cast. These curts were dumped by the dozen at his various farms, but the brilliant idea wouldn't work. Meanwhile everybody was wondering at Sir John's doings. Practical farmans and ranchmen laughed at him and his colonists, and said they never had seen anything so foolish in their lives. The poor Yorkshire men became greatly discouraged. They could not raise wheat, and they found life entirely different from that which they were accustomed to in rural Eugland. They began to desert Sir John and his wonderful farms. Some of them went to Manitoba, where they secured employment in that spiendid wheat growing region. Others became ranchmen and are now deling well. Others returned to England, where they gave Sir John the reportation of being a modern Don Quixote. This thing went on for three or four years, and by that time the stockholders in the company had become very much dissatisfied. They had failed to see any positions rate, but nothing was going out at a prosticious rate, but nothing was coming in. They demanded an ovulgantion from Sir John. He went to England with a long face and a longer story. He had sumk \$300,000 of capital he had to show the farms, the buildings, the secsa and a good deal of stock. He was deposed from the management and the company began business on a new basis.

Instead of tryings to grow wheat on soil which was never intended for wheat raising, they have now gone into stock raising. They have now gone into stock raising, they have now gone into stock raising. They have now gone into stock raising. John took in hand, and process to feel their way as they do at seal thin the work which Sir John took in hand, and process to feel their way as they do at the firm of the produce. The landsome farm buildings are at once the most attract

Why Telegraph Wires Are Underground

"A superstitious reverence for the dead ac complished years ago in China something that regard for the comfort and safety of the living, even when sided by judicial mandates and radical municipal methods, have been only partially able to accomplish in this country, said a telegraph lineman who was in the em-ploy of the company that established the first

telegraph line in China.
"The telegraph wires are placed under ground there, and if the company had not so discoved of them there would have been no telegraph lines in China to this day. Dead ancestors are beld in peculiar reverence in that curious country, and the casting of a shadow uron the grave of an ancestor is looked upon br the Chinese as an insult not to be borne, and it is always resented with impetuous rage. it is always resented with impetuous rage. Now there are no cemeteries or general buryling grounds in China, but every family's ancestors, particularly in the rural districts, are buri-don the family premises. Consequently, every yard or garden is a receptacle of ancest ai remains, and as China is thickly posmised, the revered hones of dead and gone Mongolian progenitors may be found itselfing beneath every low rots of earth, when the telegraph company went to work to just any the poles on what thang its wires, the workmen were embarrassed every little while by writhful Chinames, who would rush angrily upon certain poles and chop them to the ground, and warn the workmen, with much furious chatter, that they would put them up again at their peril. The cause of this interference was unknown to the workmen, who were at last force; to discontinue the work and so plaus ton was demanded by the authorities. Then it was learned that the poles that were cut down has cast a shedow some time during the day on the grayes of revered ancestors of Chinamen, and the insult could be wiped out in no other way but by summarily removing the poles. It was found that this superstition was don saved a one among the Chinese to be overcome by persuasion or bribery, and at last the telegraph company, as a matter of scenomy and sell-protection, lad their wires beneath the sur-Now there are no cemeteries or general buryFROM THE LAND OF GOLD.

Plenty of Gold There, but Many May Not Find It-Wonderful Ruins Whose Story is Involved in Mystery-The Pencoful Markoune and the Blessing the Advent of the Whites Has Been to Them, HARTLEY HILLS, Mashonaland, June 1 .- In

my last letter mention was made of the value of Mashonaland as an agricultural and goldproducing country. High claim was made for the riches and fertility of a large portion of Mashonaland, for the evidences were so strong that there was no danger of exaggeration. Observations since that time have confirmed all that was said. In treating of the gold prospects. I was careful to avoid undue praise and spoke with some reserve, as I was anxious to say nothing that would be misleading. For the past quarter of a century it has been known that there was gold in Mashonaland, and of the various localities where natives obtained the metal, two were prominently mentioned. These were the Mare liver district in northeast Mashonaiand and the Umvuli River district which is well to the southwest. It was but natural that when men began searching for gold last September they should be attracted to these two places. Many went to the Mazoe, where few found gold. A larger numbearing reefs were discovered. The report of numerous finds here, for Hartley Hills is the centre around which most discoveries have been made, drew still larger numbers, and up to this date as many as 1,400 claims have been pegged out and registered in the Umpuli district, A claim, according to the gold laws of the British South African Company, is 150 feet in the direction of the reef and 400 feet wide. It must be borne in mind that many of the claimholders are inexperienced men, and that very few claims have been proved owing to the scarcity of tools in the country. Very few tools are to be had at present. However, most of the reefs which have been developed give satisfactory results, so it is not too much to suppose there are many other reefs yet to be opened up just as good. Perhaps the greater number of reefs already described are in the neighborhood o what is known as Hartley Hills, so named after a famous elephant hunter, who was probably the first white man to find gold here. Many other finds have been made twenty or thirty miles west and northwest of Hartley Hills.

It is too early in the occupation of Mashona land to know what the gold fields will be worth as compared with those of other countries Several experienced prospectors have told me that the Umpuls fields are far the best of any in South Africa. but just as many say that they do not approach the Trausvaul fields for rich ness. It is true there have been no wonderful discoveries. No reefs which will yield four six, or eight ounces to the ton have yet been found, but a far less quantity will pay well here, where water and tuel will cost nothing. It should also be mentioned that nearly all the reefs now found are those which have "old the people who worked these fields centuries ago; thus few reefs have been found except those with plain evidences upon the surface I shall tell more of the "old workings" later. From all this it seems very likely that when real prospecting is done many more reefs will be found where none is now suspected. There are fully 300 men in Mashonaland looking for gold at present, and if rumor has it correctly hundreds are en route to seek their fortunes

in this country.

A few words on the gold laws of Mashons. land may be of interest. All the mineral wealth of Mashonaland belongs to the British bouth African Company, but a one-half interest in all gold found is given to the finder. Any prospector is allowed to hold ten claims at a time, and when he has sunk a thirty-foot shaft he may peg off another ten. If the claims are acthe holder an offer to float his claims and give him one-half the vendor's interests. If, however, the holder receives a better offer for floatation he may accept it and must then give the company one-half the vendor's interest No licenses are to be paid until the claims are worked and then the amounts are small. Allu-vial claims are 150 feet square and the holder has all the gold he gets, but pays a license of

£1 per month. The history of Mashonaland is wrapped in the deepest mystery. That the country has had a history worthy of being known to the world of

The limiters. The third country is back a like or worth or being how not be worthed for good by an unknown people with worked for good by an unknown people with the peopl

has ever seen these ruins can incline to such | SAD LOT OF THE LIBERIANS. belief. Though they seem to be very old in-deed, they do not by any means have the ap-pearance of having been built hundreds of centuries ago. Very few white men have ever visited the ruins, but as Mashonsland is thrown open to the civilized world archivologists will perhaps examine the ruins, and may be able to tell us to what age they belong. The history of the present natives of Ma-

shops is just as dark as that of the country itself. The population is by no means arge, The natives live in "kranis," or villages scattered about the country. Nearly every kraal is independent in government, having its own indunes who rule a number of villages. But by far the greater number of villages have a small population which lives by cultivating the ground in close proximity to the village. Most of the vilinges are built upon rugged granite hills, many of which are inaccessible, except by one or two narrow passages. This is expe-cially true of those villages just across the Matabeleiand border. I remember that three or four of the first villages we passed after leaving Matabeleland, in July last, were built upon hills 500 or 600 feet high, so steep and precipitous that it was really impossible for us at any rate to get to the villages without a guide, and even then it was most difficult to reach them. At one of the villages the chief told us that less than a year before the Matabeles had made a raid, captured his father, who was of course the chief, together with other natives, and carried them to Gubuluwayo, the Matabele capital. Here the father was skioned alive. These Matabels raids, which have been so frequent and disastrous to the Mashonas hitherto, have now ceased, as the natives of Mashonaland are under the protection of the English. Imagine the terror in which these unfortunate natives used to live continually. not knowing when they would be swept down

unfortusate natives used to live continually, not knowing when they would be awayt down upon by a horde of Matabeien, who would will all the men unable to escape, carry away the women and children for concubines and siaves, seize their cattle and goats, and even destroy their fields of grain. Is it any wonder that these men haited the advent of the white men with delight? New they may live in peace, increased their herds, and till the ground in perfect saiety.

The Masbonas live in round huts, ten errow thigh. They are made of small poles placed perpondicularly on the ground close together, and fastened with the bark of a tree. The ontire inside of the poles is plastered with a mixture of earth and water. The roofs are also made of small poles, all joining at a point in the centre somewhat higher than the walls. They are then thatched with grass. Every village has a place as tapart for its granaries, which are constructed much like the huts, but often upon high and solltary granits boulders, which are constructed much like the huts, but often upon high and solltary granits boulders, which are constructed much like the huts, but often upon high and solltary granits boulders, which are constructed much like the huts, but often upon high and solltary granits boulders, which are constructed much like the huts, but often upon high and solltary granits boulders, which are constructed much like the huts, but often upon high and solltary granits boulders, which are constructed much like the huts, but often upon high and solltary granits boulders, which are constructed much like the huts, but often upon high and solltary granits boulders, which are constructed much like the huts, but often upon high and solltary granits boulders. The series of the provent family granits boulders, which are constructed by some process, is made into conical-shaped by some process, is made into conical-shaped to be pumpkins. Which had been family do not have many of those cruel and barbarous practices invariably found among such people. Th

tribe, as their physiognomies indicate. For many decades they have been subdued and ing tribes, and this accounts for that lack of manly bearing and that weakness of character so manifest among them. They are generally of a deep black color, with soft and smooth skin and features which show them to be far removed from the real negro. Their features are quite regular without the great nasal ridge. very thick lips, broad nose, and marked prognathism of the true negro. Many of them have a face which could easily be termed handsome. One very often sees men whose features are perfectly incompatible with black color and plainly show the presence of the blood of a

foreign race.
The most distinguishing mark of the Mashonas is the manner in which they dress their hair. It would be impossible to describe or even enumerate the numerous fantastic fashions of hair dressing. Some of the men cultivate a heavy growth and work it into small lumps, upon which is bestowed a plenti-

A COUNTRY UNDER A LOAD OF POYERTY

AND FALSE PRIDE. How a Young Lady of the Black Republic Goes Begging with Her Nervant-Immo-railty in the Citles-Ravages of the Fever-The Country's One Bright Spot,

"The love of liberty brought us here, and the want of money keeps us," is a saying well known to all classes of citizens of the miniatue republic of Liberia. The occasion when the motto of the republic was thus distorted was a state dinner which Mr. Warner, the second President of the black republic, gave in the Executive Manaton in Monrovia, the Liberian capital, in honor of Capt. Francklyn of the United States navy, who at that time was on the African coast, in command of the United States ship Franklin, cooperating with the English fleet in the suppression of the slave trade.
Seated at the table when the tonst was

made were President Warner, Gen. Lewis, Secretary of State, F. J. Roye, Secretary of the Tressury, and other members of the Cabinet, as well as the other dignituries of the Liberian Government. The unfortunate expression was received in silence and with signs of embarrassed displeasure, which could but have the effect of causing the visiting guests to truth than it was pleasant for Liberian officials to admit. And in that conclusion the American gentlemen were by no means wrong.

At the time of this event the situation of the negroes in America was anything but happy, and it was no difficult task to induce them to seek to better their fortunes. Arriving at their destination they soon learned how different were the facts from what they had been led to expect. They found Liberia a country rich in natural resources, with a soil responsive to the

"Daddis." she said, using a term of salutation common to the poorer classes. "Ma-mammin easy, mammin easy "— She could get no further, and I had to ask her:
"Mammin say what?"
"Nammin say," she replied, "please dadding the resone of dat fish water dat you dense get took you house yeaterday."
"Fish water! And what is that, and what is your nother going to do with it?" I saked her. Opening her eyes wide she said:
"You no sabey daddie?" and she burst into a loud laugh, jumping up and down and clapping her hands. I had to repeat my question with every appearance of displeasure before she answered:
"All we folke liffs chop dem fish water, he fitts for make dem dry rice set down in our mouths first-class fashion."
I then understood that the child was begging for brine from a barrel of maeverel which I had purchased on the day before. Of course

I then understood that the child was begging for brine from a barrol of mackers! which I had purchased on the day before. Of course there was no reason why I should reines, and I asked her what she had to carry it in.

"Hey, there," said the begging child, turning toward another youngster, who stood out on the walk holding a large tin vessel. "Tote de pannikin here; daddie is going to gib me der fish water."

There was no difference in appearance between the children except that the second had only a cloth around the loins. It was necessary that I should wait upon the little baggar myself, for everything in the way of imported provisions had to be kept under lock and key. So taking them both to my storehouse I filled the pan, not forgetting to put a few of the fish in also. I then held it out toward in the child.